

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 28, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Gustafson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Commissioner Gerald W. Gustafson, Commissioner Verne M. Pierson, Commissioner Robert E. Skaggs, Fire Chief Reggie Romines, Deputy Chief Gary Franz, Assistant Chief Tony Judd, Assistant Chief Ryan Baskett, Assistant Chief Todd Jensen, Public Prevention Education Officer Myra Merdian-Drake and District Secretary Kathy Hale.

Absent: Assistant Chief Tom Mason had an excused absence.

Commissioner Gustafson led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed the audience.

PRESENTATION:

Commissioner Gustafson recessed the Regular Meeting at 7:05 p.m. for the presentation ceremony of the Medal of Honor, the District's highest award, to Fire Fighter Aaron Tang.

Commissioner Gustafson reconvened the Regular Meeting at 7:40 p.m.

APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Pierson moved to approve the Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 14, 2011, were approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letter of Resignation from Volunteer Roy Lanoce
- Thank You Letter from a Citizen
- Thank You Letter from Representative Jim McCune
- Retirement Celebration Announcement for Fire Marshal Wayne Wienholz
- Grant Notification from FEMA

FINANCIALS:

Commissioner Gustafson stated for the record due to the last day of the month being today, he had reviewed the payables last Thursday and approved the warrants to be printed so payroll would be ready for today.

General Payables Vouchers #02009 through #02199 in the amount of \$416,638.95 and Account Transfers in the amount of \$478,496.76 for a total of \$896,739.66, of which \$631,148.02 was for Payroll and \$265,591.64 was for Payables, were presented for approval.

Commissioner Pierson moved to accept the payables in the amount of \$896,739.66 after proper auditing. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:
Chief's Report**

Station No. 21-0. Chief Romines presented the Board with the January 2011 Robinson Noble, Inc., report for their review. Assistant Chief Baskett informed the Board he had had a conversation with John Hildenbrand regarding different options for consideration: First, continue to monitor the wells; second, inject the ORC wait six months before any more testing is done then test to see how the ORC did; third, purge WM7; fourth, do nothing at all at this point until the economy stabilizes. He stated it was his and John's opinion the Department of Ecology would not bless us stopping and doing nothing further while waiting for our budget to stabilize.

D/S Hale stated she had a conversation with the Ecology Grant Manager who informed her the grant money is guaranteed once a NFA is received from the Department of Ecology, and the grant amount has been increased to \$200,000 matching. Also, the expense timeline is five years – only expenses incurred in the past five years will qualify for matching grant fund reimbursement. The largest amount of our expenses occurred in 2008 and 2009, which is closing in on three and four years. D/S Hale stated we could ask the Department of Ecology for an extension of the five-year timeframe.

Assistant Chief Baskett recommended, given the information from the Grant Manager, the District inject the ORC, wait six months and test MW7 to see if the process was successful and then monitor for the four quarters necessary to be awarded a NFA.

Chief Romines voiced he had asked Assistant Chief Baskett to look into when the best months are to inject the ORC for maximum effect. Further discussion was had by the Board to determine which process would be best to go forward with.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to go forward with the injection of ORC once the best month(s) is/are determined, stop further testing, wait six months from the injection time, and then test MW7. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mediation. Chief Romines informed the Board the two parties did not reach resolution at their February 16, 2011 meeting. Three issues will be certified for arbitration; cross-staffing pay; fitness initiative/NFPA 1582; response model staffing/compensation.

File for Life Event. Chief Romines stated he commends Lieutenant Jason Rickey for implementing the File for Life program at Silver Creek Retirement Center. Thank you, Jason, for all your hard work!

VFIS Risk Assessment. Chief Romines informed the Board in September 2010 the District took part in a risk assessment with our liability insurance company, VFIS. As a result of the assessment, three recommendations were made by the consultant. Chief Romines stated he signed off that we have complied with the third recommendation, Subcontractor Insurance Certifications. The two other recommendations we do not need to comply with at this time according to our insurance agent, Gordon MacIvvennie, due to collective bargaining impacts.

Orting Valley Fire & Rescue. Chief Romines informed the Board he had met with Chief Webb of Orting Valley Fire & Rescue and also Chief Thorson of East Pierce Fire & Rescue. The impression of the meeting was that at this time East Pierce was not going to merge with Orting due to financial impacts, but discussion was had regarding regional efficiencies between the three districts. These areas would be, for example, EMS, Fleet, and the Training Divisions. Chief Romines inquired of the Board if they would be interested in having staff pursue this idea of regional efficiencies. Following discussion, the Board gave their approval to explore and move forward with identifying areas of efficiencies between the three districts and implementing those identified areas.

Training Report

Battalion Chief Steve Richards presented the Training report for Board review.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution No. 768, Sole Source Provider. District Secretary Hale read Resolution No. 764, Accepting Air Exchange, Inc., as sole-source provider of Plymo-vent vehicle exhaust systems in the State of Washington, into the record.

Commissioner Skaggs moved the approval of Resolution No. 768, Accepting Air Exchange, Inc., as sole-source provider of Plymo-vent exhaust systems in the State of Washington, as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reader Board Bid. Chief Romines presented the Board with the bid specs for the Reader Boards for Station Nos. 21-4 and 21-6. He asked Board approval to go out to bid on the two signs.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to accept Chief Romines' recommendation to go out for bid for two Reader Board signs for Station Nos. 21-4 and 21-6 with the timeframe and bid specs as presented. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

GOOD OF THE ORDER/PUBLIC INPUT:

The Board commended Fire Fighter Aaron Tang for his heroism in rescuing a citizen from her burning home last September. Chief Romines stated the Pierce County Council will be recognizing Fire Fighter Tang by Proclamation tomorrow night at their Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m., at the Pierce County Skills Center.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of February 28, 2011, was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Gerald W. Gustafson, Commissioner

Kathy J. Hale, District Secretary